

Appl. No. 10/694,783
Amendment dated: March 20, 2007
Reply to OA of: September 20, 2006

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-35(canceled).

36(currently amended). A process for the preparation of an elastomeric seal for a valve for use in a pharmaceutical dispensing device, the process comprising:

(I) providing an elastomeric composition comprising an isobutylene polymer or co-polymer thereof selected from the group consisting of one or more of polyisobutylene, polybutene, butyl rubber, halogenated butyl rubber, and derivatives thereof;

(ii) forming the elastomeric composition into a seal; and

(iii) ~~contacting~~ refluxing the seal with an extracting solvent which is a refluxing solvent comprising an aliphatic alcohol, whereby impurities contained in the seal are substantially extracted.

37(currently amended). A process as claimed in claim 36, wherein the aliphatic alcohol is ethanol which percolates through the elastomer.

38(previously presented). A process as claimed in claim 36, wherein the step of forming the composition into a seal involves one or more forming techniques which is compression moulding, injection moulding and extrusion.

39(currently amended). A process as claimed in claim 36, wherein the step (I) of providing an elastomeric composition consists of an isobutylene polymer or co-polymer thereof selected from the group consisting of one or more of polyisobutylene, polybutene, butyl rubber, halogenated butyl rubber, and derivatives thereof;

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- (ii) forming the elastomeric composition into a seal; and
- (iii) ~~contacting~~ refluxing the seal with an extracting solvent consisting of an aliphatic alcohol, whereby impurities contained in the seal are substantially extracted.

40(currently amended). A process as claimed in claim 39, wherein the aliphatic alcohol is ethanol which percolates through the elastomer.

41(previously presented). A process as claimed in claim 39, wherein the step of forming the composition into a seal involves one or more forming techniques which is compression moulding, injection moulding and extrusion.

42(currently amended). A process for the preparation of an elastomeric seal for a valve for used in a pharmaceutical dispensing device, the process comprising:

- (i) providing a composition comprising a mixture of an isobutylene polymer or co-polymer thereof selected from the group consisting of one or more of polyisobutylene, polybutene, butyl rubber, halogenated butyl rubber, and derivatives thereof, a cross-linking agent for the isobutylene polymer or co-polymer thereof, and an optional accelerator for the cross-linking agent;
- (ii) initiating a cross-linking reaction in the mixture to form a cross-linked elastomeric composition;
- (iii) forming the elastomeric composition into a seal; and
- (iv) ~~contacting~~ refluxing the seal with an extracting solvent which is a refluxing solvent comprising an aliphatic alcohol, whereby impurities contained in the seal are substantially extracted.

43(previously presented). A process as claimed in claim 42, wherein the aliphatic alcohol is ethanol.

44(previously presented). A process as claimed in claim 42, wherein the step of forming the composition into a seal involves one or more forming techniques selected from the group consisting of compression moulding, injection moulding and extrusion.

45(currently amended). A process for the preparation of an elastomeric seal for a valve for used in a pharmaceutical dispensing device as claimed in claim 42, the process comprising:

(i) providing a composition consisting of a mixture of an isobutylene polymer or co-polymer thereof selected from the group consisting of one or more of polyisobutylene, polybutene, butyl rubber, halogenated butyl rubber, and derivatives thereof, a cross-linking agent for the isobutylene polymer or co-polymer thereof, and an optional accelerator for the cross-linking agent;

(ii) initiating a cross-linking reaction in the mixture to form a cross-linked elastomeric composition;

(iii) forming the elastomeric composition into a seal; and

(iv) ~~contacting~~ refluxing the seal with an extracting solvent consisting of an aliphatic alcohol, whereby impurities contained in the seal are substantially extracted.

46(previously presented). A process as claimed in claim 45, wherein the aliphatic alcohol is ethanol.

47(previously presented). A process as claimed in claim 45, wherein the step of forming the composition into a seal involves one or more forming techniques selected from the group consisting of compression moulding, injection moulding and extrusion.